

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 SAM-01

AF-08 EA-07 /112 W

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R 011500Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3621

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION BRUSSELS

USMISSION USUN

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 7422

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ILO, ELAB, PINS, IS

SUBJECT: MINISTRY OF LABOR COMMENTS ON ILO MATTERS

1. WHEN LABOR ATTACHE CALLED ON DIRECTOR GENERAL GUREL OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOR OCT 29, HE FOUND LABOR MINISTER BARAM PRESENT IN GUREL'S OFFICE. THE MINISTER HAD JUST RETURNED FROM PARIS WHERE HE HAD MET WITH THE NEW FRENCH LABOR MINISTER AND WITH THE GOVT REP TO THE ILO VENTEJOL (SEE TEL AVIV 6960). HE SAID THAT HE HAD URGED BOTH TO IMPRESS UPON ILO DIRECTOR GENERAL BLANCHARD THE IMPORTANCE OF FINDING A FORMULA IN HIS REPORT TO THE FORTHCOMING ILO GOVERNING BODY MEETING WHICH WOULD END THE DEBATE ON LABOR IN THE ISRAELI OCCUPIED TERRITORIES AND BOTH HAD AGREED TO DO SO. BARAM ADDED THAT AFL-CIO REPRESENTATIVE IRVING BROWN HAD ALSO MET WITH VENTEJOL TO ENLIST FRENCH SUPPORT IN THIS MATTER.

2. GUREL REGRETTED HAVING MISSED DAN HOROWITZ DURING HIS RECENT TRIP TO ISRAEL AND THEN EXPRESSED HIS CONTINUING SUSPICION OF BLANCHARD. FOR EXAMPLE, HE SAID HE THOUGHT THAT THE CANCELLATION OF THE OPSAHL FACT FINDING MISSION MAY HAVE

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REFLECTED NOT ONLY ARAB PRESSURE, BUT ALSO THE DIRECTOR

GENERAL'S OWN DESIRE TO ESCAPE THE ONUS OF HAVING TO EDIT HIS REPORT IN SUCH A WAY AS TO MAKE IT ACCEPTABLE TO THE U.S. AND ISRAEL. HE DISMISSED THE ARAB CLAIM THAT THE OPSAHL MISSION HAD BEEN ARRANGED WITHOUT PRIOR NOTIFICATION OF THE MEMBERS AS PATENTLY FALSE, SINCE THE MATTER HAD BEEN DISCUSSED AT THE MARCH 1976 GOVERNING BODY MEETING. IN ANY CASE, THE GOI WOULD OPPOSE ANY REOPENING OF THE QUESTION OF RECEIVING A FUTURE ILO MISSION TO THE OCCUPIED AREAS.

3. GUREL THEN ASKED IF THE U.S. HAD FULLY CONSIDERED THE POSSIBILITY THAT BLANCHARD MAY COUNSEL THE ARABS AND HOSTILE THIRD WORLD FORCES TO STAY FURTHER ATTACKS UNTIL AFTER THE 1977 GENEVA CONFERENCE IN ORDER TO ENCOURAGE THE U.S. TO WITHDRAW ITS LETTER OF INTENT AND THAT ONCE THAT NOTICE IS WITHDRAWN, THESE FORCES WOULD THEN HAVE A FREER HAND TO RESUME THEIR HOSTILE INITIATIVES. THE LABOR ATTACHE ASSURED HIM THAT IN THE PRESENT CLIMATE IN THE UN AND ITS SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO PREVENT FUTURE HOSTILE INITIATIVES BY A COMMUNIST-AFRO-ASIAN MAJORITY. AT THIS TAGE THE PRINCIPAL U.S. CONCERN WAS TO PROMOTE CONSENSUS AND COOPERATION AMONG THE PRO-WESTERN FORCES AND IT WAS PREMATURE TO FORMULATE CONTINGENCIES IF THE ILO WERE UNABLE TO OFFER SATISFACTORY EVIDENCE OF ACCOMMODATING U.S. GRIEVANCES. WHILE IT APPEARED THAT BLANCHARD WAS WILLING TO COOPERATE WITH THE U.S. AND WESTERN MEMBERS IN SEEKING A FORMULA WHEREBY THE WEST BANK ISSUE COULD BE SHELVED, NOT JUST VAGUELY POSTPONED, THE U.S. FUTURE ATTITUDE WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE INFLUENCED BY THE OUTCOME OF THE NEXT GOVERNING BODY MEETING. THE LABOR ATTACHE ALSO COMMENTED THAT HOROWITZ'S MISSION APPEARS ON BALANCE TO HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN PERSUADING ASEAN COUNTRIES WHICH HE HAD JUST VISITED TO SUPPORT THE U.S. POSITION.

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## Message Attributes

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